Carl Rhinehart, 92, of Grinnell and formerly of Victor, died on December 23, 2019, at St. Francis Manor in Grinnell.

Funeral services were scheduled for 11:00 a.m. Saturday, December 28, at the South Funeral Home in Victor with the Rev. John Epperson, Grinnell Regional Hospice Chaplain, officiating. Organist was Denise Baustian. Pallbearers were his 12 grandchildren. Burial will be in the Victor Memorial Cemetery.

Visitation, with the Rhinehart family present, was held on Saturday, two hours prior to the service (9:00 to 11:00 a.m.) at the funeral home.

Memorial contributions in Carl's name may be designated to the HLY High School Music Department or Victor Public Library.

Carl Lester Rhinehart was born to Lester W. Rhinehart and Adelaide Edith Brooks Rhinehart on a farm east of Victor, Iowa, December 18, 1927. Carl graduated from Victor High School in 1945. Carl served his country in the U.S. Army, 42nd Engineers in 1946 and 1947 in Korea.

On May 23, 1948, Carl married Lois Calvert in the Victor Methodist Church. They celebrated their 70th Wedding Anniversary in 2018. To this union the couple was blessed with four children who were raised in a farming community in Victor.

In Victor, a big house on water tower hill.

Carl spent most of his lifetime affiliated with the family business, Rhinehart's. He started working for his father at a young age. In 1950, Rhinehart's pioneered highway croton control for the Iowa Highway Commission. In 1965, Rhinehart's added farm implement service, implement sales and tire sales, then in 1967 they added metal building construction.

Carl retired and moved to Grinnell with Lois in 1994. In 2010, the Iowa Transportation Museum honored him as "A Hero by Example" for his longtime career in highway erosion control.

Carl was an avid reader all of his life until he lost his eyesight. Carl and Lois traveled extensively throughout the United States with their children. He was a member of the Victor Lions Club, the VFW, and the Victor United Methodist Church for many years. Carl also served on the advisory board for the Area Community College for many years promoting the idea.

Carling loved to fish; he spent many years fishing with his family, especially his grandchildren. Carl and Lois hosted Ernicky, a foreign exchange student from Japan, during the 1976-77 school year.

Carl had a fantastic memory demonstrated by the telling of many tales of growing up during the Depression, serving in the Army and doing road work all over Iowa.

Carl is preceded in death by his wife Lois, his parents L.W. and Adelaide, and three brothers, Donald, Clair and David Rhinehart. He is survived by his son, Lester (Susan) Rhinehart of Prospect, Kentucky, and three daughters, Deanna (Les) Vavak of Elkhorn, Nebraska, Connie (John) Dayon of Grinnell, Iowa, and Christine (Bob) Russell of Ankeny, Iowa; twelve grandchildren, Matthew (April) Rhinehart of Louisville, Kentucky, Michael (Erin) Rhinehart of Springboro, Ohio, Andrew (Laura) Rhinehart of Louisville, Kentucky, Joseph (Katie) Vavak of Omaha, Nebraska, James (Tricia) Vavak of Croton on the Hudson, New York; Benjamin (Ashley) Vavak of Papillion, Nebraska, Joel (Hal) Dayon of Fort Worth, Texas, John (Erin) Dayon of Mitchellville, Iowa, Jason (Liz) Dayon of Beaverton, Oregon, Krista (Jeff) Scenna of Chicago, Illinois, Eric (Emily) Dayon of San Francisco, California, and Daniel Randolph of San Rafael, California; his sister Elaine Ricketts of Victor, Iowa; his sisters-in-law Betty (Rory) Fears of Santa Maria, California, and Mildred (Frances) Miller of Omaha, Nebraska; 11 great grandchildren, Emily, Everett, Byles, Wriley, Aveline, Jacob, Lilian, Alexander, Milan, Niam and Kira; and many nieces and nephews.
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